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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, held at the Society's Apartments, William-street, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, April 9th (by adjournment from the 2nd), 1862.

JAMES M. TIDMARSH, Esq., J. P., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected:—

The Right Hon. Lord Chief Baron Pigot, 52, Stephen's-green, Dublin: proposed by Charles H. Foot, Esq.

Sir James Langrishe, Bart., Knocktopher Abbey; Major William Pollard Urquhart, M. P., Kinturk, Castlepollard, Westmeath; George Stephens, Esq., F.S.A., Professor of Old English and the English language in the University of Cheapinghaven, Denmark: proposed by the Rev. James Graves.

W. Bunbury M'Clintock Bunbury, Esq., M. P., Lisnevagh, Baltinglass; Henry Bruen, Esq., M. P., D. L., Oak Park, Carlow; Denis W. Pack Beresford, Esq., J. P., Fenagh Lodge, Fenagh; Ralph B. Brunker, Esq., 31, York-street, Dublin; Charles E. Bagot, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, 28, William-street, Dublin; Darby Herring Cooper, Esq., Hanover House, Carlow; Charles Henry Doyne, Esq., J. P., St. Austin's Abbey, Tullow; B. B. Feltus, Esq., A. M., Hollybrook, Myshal; Rev. J. P. Garrett, A. M., The Rectory, Kellistown, Carlow; Thomas Jameson, Esq., Egremont, Ballybrack, Killiney; John Malcomson, Esq., Carlow; William Malcomson, Esq., M. D., Cavan; Joseph C. O'Meagher, Esq., 5, Granby-row, Dublin; Rev. W. J. Purdon, A. M., Erindale, Carlow; Horace Rochfort, Esq., D. L., Clogrenan, Carlow; and Henry Watters, Esq., J. P., Staplestown, Carlow: proposed by Robert Malcomson, Esq.

Lady Bertha Clifton, Argrennan, Castle Douglas, Cork: proposed J. Stratford Kirwen, Esq.

The Venerable Archdeacon O'Shea, P. P., Ballyhale: proposed by Mr. John Hogan.

David Leslie, Esq., M. D., Killybegs, Carrickmacross : proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

John Ridley, Esq., M. D., F. R. C. S., Tullamore : proposed by John Hill, Esq.

The Rev. J. W. Ballard, Ballymoney : proposed by the Rev. George Vance.

Thomas M'Donnell, Esq., National Bank, Cork : proposed by Barry Delany, Esq., M. D.

Patrick O'Donovan, Esq., LL.B., Abbey-view, Thomastown : proposed by Mr. Prim.

The Secretary laid before the Meeting a letter from Sir George Grey, acknowledging the receipt of the resolution of the Society conveying its regret for the decease of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort. Sir G. Grey stated that he would take an early opportunity of laying the resolution before her Majesty.

The Rev. James Graves brought under the notice of the Members a correspondence which had taken place between Mr. J. H. Parker, proprietor of "The Gentleman's Magazine," and the Society of Antiquaries of London. Mr. Parker justly complained that the Magazine did not receive that support from archæologists which the nature of its contents and the excellence of its pictorial illustrations deserved. Mr. Graves pointed out that it would be a subject of much regret if a publication in every way so valuable were suffered to fall from insufficient support ; and he trusted the Members would aid a periodical which never failed to report the proceedings of this and the kindred societies of Great Britain.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors :—

By the Society of Antiquaries of London : "Archæologia," Vol. XXXVIII. ; their "Proceedings," Nos. 48–52, inclusive, with General Index ; and their "Proceedings," second series, Vol. I., Nos. 1–5, inclusive.

By the Smithsonian Institution, Washington : their "Report" for the year 1859 ; "Researches upon the Venom of the Rattlesnake," by S. Weir Mitchell, Esq., M. D., being one of the "Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge ;" and "Second Report of a Geological Reconnaissance of the Middle and Southern Counties of Arkansas." By David Dale Owen ; published by the State of Arkansas.

By the Suffolk Institute of Archæology : their "Proceedings," Vol. III., No. 2.

By the Royal Irish Academy ; their "Proceedings," Vol. VII., part 14.

By the Ossianic Society: their "Transactions," Vol. VI., being Fenian Poems, second series, edited by John O'Daly.

By the British Archæological Association: their "Journal," Vols. XIII.—XVIII., inclusive.

By the Geological Society of Dublin: their "Journal," Vol. IX., part 1.

By the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society: "Views of the Gates of Norwich," by Robert Fitch, F. S. A., &c., and their "Original Papers," Vol. VI., part 2.

By the Rev. G. Mackarness: the volume of the Ilam Anastatic Drawing Society for 1861.

By the Publisher: "The Gentleman's Magazine" for February, March, and April, 1862.

By the Publisher: "The Builder," Nos. 973–1000, inclusive.

Donations of various ancient coins and medals were received from the Rev. Samuel Madden, Rev. G. L. Shannon, Mr. A. J. Boyd, Mr. W. F. Budds; Mr. J. G. Robertson, Mr. William Lawless, and Mr. Daniel Carrigan.

The coins presented by the Rev. G. L. Shannon consisted of a London groat of Edward IV., two English groats and an Irish farthing of Elizabeth, a Nova Scotia halfpenny, and a half anna.

The coin presented by Mr. Budds was one of a "find" of the gun-money half crowns of James II. They were discovered in a leather purse, on throwing down an old clay fence at Courtstown, Tullaroan, last winter.

Mr. Robertson's presentation was a brass medal, struck in commemoration of the spirited conduct of James, Earl of Kildare, in protesting against the appropriation of a balance of Irish revenue by the Government of England. The obverse represented a table covered with money, the Earl of Kildare with his sword drawn warding off a grasping hand; with the motto "TOUCH. NOT. SAYS. KILDARE. MDCCCLV." Reverse, a harp crowned, with the legend "PROSPERITY TO OLD IRELAND. 1754." The presentor stated this medal to be of considerable rarity.

Mr. Richard Preston, Jun., presented a fragment of an effigial monument, which had formerly been in the Franciscan Abbey, Kilkenny. It consisted of a part of the dog on which the feet of a knight in armour rested. A portion of one solleret remained. The fragment had been used as a building stone in an adjoining house.

The Rev. James Mease presented a small fictile vessel, pitcher-shaped, capable of holding about a naggin, composed of common red pottery, glazed. It was found, with five others, about four feet beneath the surface of a small rath, on the farm of Mr. Edmond Campion, of Ballylarkin, near Freshford, and was given by Mrs. Walsh, of that town. The other vessels had been broken by the

finders, who supposed they might contain money; they, however, were merely filled with clay.

The Rev. James Graves remarked that from the absence of any archaic character, and the presence of a glaze, the vessel was evidently not of any very remote antiquity. He supposed it might have been intended to contain *aqua vitæ*. It and its companions had probably been buried in the rath, and forgotten.

Mr. Frederick Jones, of Cool, Castlebridge, Wexford, presented the upper stone of a primitive corn-rubber. It was of granite, and had been found in a bog, near his place, along with a stone celt.

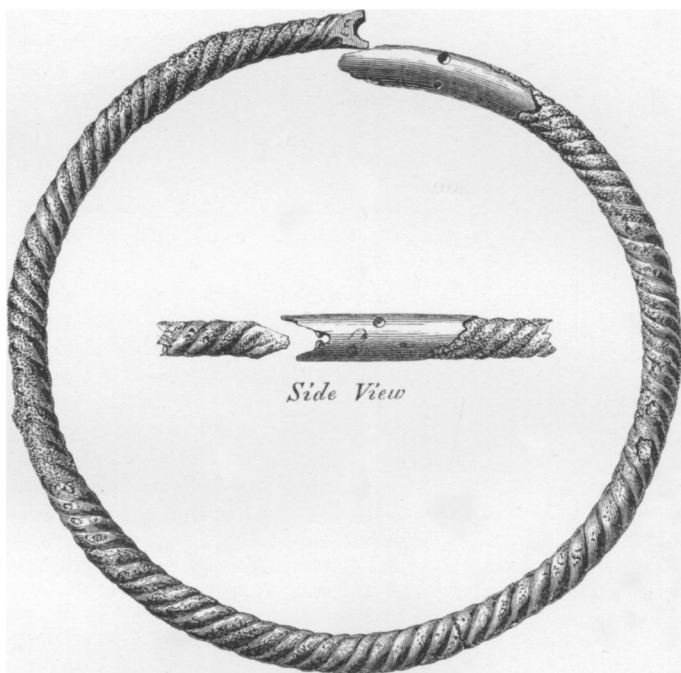
Mr. Dalton, Claremont, county Tipperary, presented a piece of adipocere, or bog-butter, found with the skeleton of a horse, six feet beneath the surface, in Claremont bog, near Nenagh.

Dr. Barry Delany exhibited a small clog, five inches long, with leather upper and wooden sole, the latter bound with iron, and having a gun-money shilling of James II. nailed to the heel inside. He had obtained this object at the sale of the cabinet of a collector in Cork.

The Rev. George H. Reade exhibited a twisted "armlet" of copper, the ends fashioned like the head and tail of a serpent (of which the plate facing this page is an accurate representation), and a bronze ring. He supplied the following observations respecting the "find," of which these were a part:—

"A dealer in Dundalk whom I employ to secure all brasses and antiques for me, sent me the entire of a 'find,' made very lately, several feet deep in a bog between Faughard and Ravensdale, in the county Louth. He stated that there was a tradition amongst the people there—'that in old times a great battle had been fought on that spot between the Irish and the Danes'—but as the man went immediately after to Liverpool, I have not been able to ascertain any further particulars as to the circumstances of the 'find.' The antiques consist of a twisted 'armlet' of copper, the device a serpent eating its tail, which I forward for inspection; 17 bronze rings, of different sizes and weights, from two ounces and a half to one quarter of an ounce, the greater part of them being nearly an ounce, and half an ounce, respectively. Those of nearly an ounce weight are two inches and one-eighth in diameter, and the quarter ounce weight one inch in diameter. A single ring weighing two and a half ounces is much thicker than all the others, and only one inch seven-eighths in diameter. I forward a ring also for inspection. They are all patinated; and as the weights are integral parts of each other, forming as it were a change for one another, they may probably have been bronze ring-money—as we know the ring-money was in that metal, as well as in gold and silver.

"I believe that the larger antique, though it may occasionally have been used as an 'armlet,' also served as a ring, like our key-rings, to hold the ring-money found with it. In the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy are preserved a number of rings exactly similar to these, together with two open rings nearly the size of this 'armlet.' The smaller rings



Copper "Armlet" found in the county of Louth.

[Full size.]

were found, as I am informed, looped on the large open rings. This circumstance, if authenticated, would determine the uses of these 'armlets,' and also go far to prove the smaller rings to be ring-money. A suggestion made by Mr. Graves to me, that they may have formed coat armour quilted between two pieces of leather, could hardly have been the case with the two and a half ounce rings, although the small kind may well have been used for that purpose. There were also found two pieces of a bronze sword, 21 inches long, of the oldest type, with the hammer-hardened edge; it was much gapped and worn, as if it had been used in many a fight before it failed in the warrior's hand. It also was deeply covered with the green rust of ages, much more deeply patinated than the rings."

Mr. Prim reported the recent discovery, on the townland of Lacken, in the parish of Ullard, near Graigue, of a leather purse, containing fifty-eight halfpence of the so-called "St. Patrick's money," and four halfpence of Charles II.; the former in excellent preservation; the latter much worn. They were found on the farm of Mr. Patrick Murphy, of Milltown, by workmen digging about a large boulder stone. The leather purse mouldered away almost immediately on being exposed to the air. The chief interest in noticing this "find" was the circumstance of the two descriptions of coin being found together. The late Dr. Cane, in a paper read at one of the early meetings of the Society, had endeavoured to prove that the "St. Patrick's money" was coined for and issued by the Confederate Catholics. Dr. Aquilla Smith, however, had contradicted this proposition, showing reason to suppose that the issue of "St. Patrick's money" must have taken place after the Restoration of Charles II. This "find" would tend to corroborate Dr. Smith's view, seeing that, whilst the St. Patrick halfpence were quite fresh and unworn, the accompanying halfpence of Charles II.—which we know were not struck till late in his reign—had obviously been long in use.

The Rev. James Graves said, that since the number of the Society's Journal for September, 1861, was issued, and his paper on the capture of the Earl of Ormonde by O'More, A. D. 1600, had been in the hands of Members, a very important point, which he was unable satisfactorily to settle, had been resolved by the more accurate local knowledge of one of the Members. At page 398, (vol. iii.), he had appended a note, confessing that he had been unable to discover any locality in the neighbourhood of the place of the Earl's capture answering the name given to it by Carew and Thomond—"Corraneduffe." However, the Rev. Thomas Greene, R. C. C., who, although now stationed at Athy, was a native of the neighbourhood of Ballyraggett, in writing to Mr. Prim, observed—"He (Mr. Graves) does not seem to know that there is a place called 'Corraneduffe' or 'dhu,' the place at which Ormonde and

O'More met. It overhangs the town of Ballyraggett; eight 'long miles' from Kilkenny; within a mile of the borders of Idough, and at most four of the borders of Leix. It presents every feature of the place of meeting. Ormonde could gain the spot by Kilmocar, where there was a castle on his own property, one mile and a half from Corran-dhu. O'More would reach it by the wild table-land of Pheroda—a country so wild that, even now, such an occurrence as the capture of the Earl would seem to be in perfect harmony with the savage character of the scenery around. The old road from Ballyraggett to Castlecomer, after ascending a pass between Corran-dhu and Ballymartin, dips down a precipitous decline to the valley of Byrne's-grove. The ground rises from the head of the valley into the wild heathy and boggy land of Pheroda. It probably was scrubby as well as boggy 260 years ago; and when Ormonde ventured there to meet O'More, the latter had all the advantage of position for his light-footed kern. Speak to some old fox-hunter on the subject, and he will tell you that the ground from the back of Corran-dhu to Pheroda is very unfavourable for the action of cavalry; and this is the ground by which the Earl must have been brought to Leix. To the left of this route the hills slope gently up, and then fall down precipitously to the valley of the Nore. These lands belonged to Mountgarrett, who was then on friendly terms with O'More, who consequently had no apprehensions from that quarter; and on the right a wild country gave full protection to his retreat." He (Mr. Graves) was informed by the Rev. Mr. Greene that the hill of Corran-dhu is in the townland of Toormore, and parish of Kilmocar. Corran-dhu was Ormonde property at the time of the capture of the Earl, hence Ormonde would naturally give a safeguard to O'More, but would not think of demanding one for himself. And this also would account for what puzzled the statesmen of Elizabeth's time, namely, his apparent folly in meeting O'More without a sufficient force for his protection. Ormonde's route from Kilkenny would have been by the old Dunmore road, across the river Dinan at a ford where the old Dinan bridge¹ now stands, along a track on the right bank of the river, and then leaving the old track² to the Castle of Shanganagh to the right, followed another leading

¹ This bridge, though remodelled, if not rebuilt, bears the inscription—"PATRICIUS DOWLYE SUI EXPENSIS HUNC PONTEM EXTRUXIT, ANNO D'NI, 1647. ÆTERNAM ILLI UXORI AC LIBERIS REQUIEM PRECARE VIATOR." Patrick Dowly was one of the sheriffs of the city of Kilkenny in 1613.

² The road, which succeeded this horse track, is now swept away, along with the old church and entire church-yard of Mayne, by the impetuous winter floods

of the Dinan. The Rev. Mr. Greene states, that he was informed by an old man, dead about ten years since, that he had played ball against the east end of the old church towards the river. About thirty years ago he (Mr. Greene) was present at a funeral in the church-yard. It was now about twenty-three years since the last trace of the church-yard had disappeared. A new bridge, higher up the stream, now carries the road towards Kilmocar.

to Kilmocar castle and church, from whence, and indeed from the Dinan, the country must have been open and unenclosed, and, as the hill was approached, covered with heath and scrubby wood. Thus Ormonde rode from Kilkenny to the place of parley through his own property; and the 200 footmen, who were left, most likely, at Kilmocar castle, must have had him in view during the parley, but were too far off to give aid when O'More took him prisoner. Mr. Graves stated that he was informed by Dr. Reeves that there are five townlands called "Corran" in Ireland, and above thirty with the word in combination; that there is a Corrandoo in the parish of Moylough, barony of Tiaquin, county Galway; and that all the places of that name have received their appellation from the real or fancied likeness of the configuration of the ground to a sickle. The hill of Corran-dhu sweeps from Ballyraggett towards the river Dinan, in a marked falciform curve. The Irish orthography would therefore be Coppán-buð (the black sickle). He had asked the Rev. Mr. Greene to make this communication himself to the meeting; but that gentleman had generously declined doing so, and allowed him (Mr. Graves) to correct his own mistake.

Mr. Graves said that he also wished to obviate a slip of the pen at p. 409, of Vol. III., where the style used by the Irish is called inadvertently the "old style." The Irish, from their connexion with Rome, used the new style at this period, and as long as they were able to hold out against the English power. The English continued to use the old style until 1752, when the new and correct mode was at last introduced, though ignorant people clamoured for their lost "eleven days."

Mr. Prim stated that the correspondence which had taken place between the Rev. Mr. Greene, Athy, and him, as alluded to by the Rev. Mr. Graves, arose from a letter which he had received from John Otway Cuffe, Esq., of Missenden House, Amersham, Bucks. Mr. Cuffe had informed him that there was what appeared to be a very ancient and curiously cut stone in the wall of the old church of Monkesgrange, on his Queen's county property, which he would be happy to place in the museum of the Society for preservation. Mr. Greene being a member of the Society, he (Mr. Prim) had written to him to request that he would examine the stone, and report as to what its character might be, and as to whether it was in danger of being injured in its present position, as he thought that, if not, it might be better not to remove it from the neighbourhood with which it was connected. Mr. Greene obligingly complied with the request, and reported that the stone referred to was about a foot square, built in the church-yard wall, and in no danger whatever of injury. It bore the date 1588; and pendent therefrom, by an elaborately sculptured chain, the initial letters R. H., which were doubtless those of

Robert Hartpole. The neighbouring castle of Monkesgrange—from the debris of a portion of which that had fallen, the stone in question was said by tradition to have been removed to the churchyard—belonged in the sixteenth century to the Hartpole family. About ten years before the date on the stone, Robert Hartpole was Constable of Carlow Castle; and in some of the Leinster Inquisitions his son, George, is referred to as being the proprietor of Grange-Kilmagobbock, or Monkesgrange. Mr. Greene had quite agreed in his view, that, the interest connected with the stone being entirely of a local character, it would not be at all desirable that it should be removed from its present position. In this opinion Mr. Cuffe fully acquiesced.

The Rev. Samuel Hayman sent the following contribution towards the history of the issue of tradesmen's tokens:—

"The Youghal tradesmen's tokens have been illustrated in previous volumes of our Proceedings.¹ In reference to one of the series, I am now enabled to supply a curious document, upon which I lately stumbled, during a search among the archives of the Town Commissioners of Youghal. The following bond, while of individual application, may be regarded with a kind of general interest. I cannot doubt but that it sets forth the accustomed conditions under which, in Borough Towns, the strikers of these tokens were placed by the respective municipalities.² I supply a *verbatim* transcript, and am not to be charged with the ungrammatical Latin of the opening paragraph. My special thanks, for numberless acts of courtesy, are due to the excellent Town Clerk of Youghal, Jeremiah Hodnett, Esq.

"*Noverint vniuersi p p'sentes, nos, Thomam Walters de Youghall, Mercator, et Josephum Murdock, de ville p'dict' Aldermano, teneri et firmiter Thomam Baker Armig^r, Major ville de Youghall, et successor' suis, in Octoginta libr' bonæ et legalis monete de et in Anglia, Soluend' eis'* Thomam Baker et successori' suis ad quam quid' solutionem bene et fideliter faciend' obligamus nos et quemlibet n^rm p se p toto et solv^d hered' et Executores nost' p p'sentes sigillis n^ris sigillat. Dat' xiiij die Novembris Anno Dom. 1665.

"The Condition of the above Obligation is such that, Whereas the aboue-bounden Thomas Walters hath sett forth a quantitie of Brasse or Copper penis or tokens, wth the Subscription on one side *The Acorne*, and on the other Side T W wth this subscripcon round the Ring *Thomas Walters of Youghall March^t*. If therefore the said Thomas Walters, his Executors or Adminstrat^{rs}, shall from time to time as often as therevnto desired by any person or persons to Exchang the said tookens or pence, and such his Exchange to be sterlinge money, As alsoe, shall pay yearlyly dureinge the passinge of his said pence or tookens the yearlyly Rent of Twentie

¹ "Journal," vol. ii., new series, pp. 222—232; 399, 400; vol. iii., new series, pp. 83, 84; 262—264.

² See Prim's "Attempt to indentify the Persons who issued Tradesmen's Tokens in Kilkenny," vol. ii., first series, p. 174.

Shillings ster. for and to the vse of y^e Corporacon of Youghall, and that halfe yearely, That is to say Tenn Shill^s on the first of May next, and the like sum of tenn Shill^s on the first of November then next following, and soe to Continue halfe yearely dureinge their said passeinge, That then the aboue obligation to be voyd & of non effect, otherwise to stand in full force and virtue in the Law.

“ Sealed, signed, and delivered
in the presence of

“ THO : WALTER, (L. S).
“ JOSEPH MURDOCK, (L. S).

“ JOHN FFARTHINGE.

“ PATT : HARPER.

(Endorsed),

“ Thomas Walters Bond for his penie.”

Mr. Edward Benn, Glenravel, Clough, Belfast, forwarded the following communication :—

“ A few months ago, in digging on the townland of Ballycraigy, parish of Ballyclug, County of Antrim, there was found an urn, now in my possession. It was of the middle size, very neat, and in fair preservation. I believe there was nothing in it except fragments of bones; there does not appear to have been any carn or outward marks to distinguish the place. Urns are frequently found in this way, but it must not therefore be inferred that the place had not been originally marked by a small heap of stones. In the course of fencing and improving, these were removed; and as the urn had been placed in a grave about two feet below the surface, it is not met with in the ordinary progress of agriculture; it is only when making ditches or drains that they are discovered; and even in this way but seldom, as urn-burials were generally made on dry hills, where drainage is not much required.

“ A more interesting discovery was made about the same time by my own workmen, in a field in the townland of Craigdunloof, parish of Dunaghy, County of Antrim.¹ A deep pit had been dug, out of which sand had been taken; when digging for sand, there fell down at the feet of the workmen a large urn with stone enclosure; it was broken into many pieces, but all are carefully preserved, and might be restored. There was no indication on the surface, below which it had been sunk about two feet, in a round hole made in the subsoil. It was a large fine urn, ornamented in the usual way. Its contents were singular, consisting of a large quantity of powdered bones exactly resembling oaten meal, but extremely white. There appeared to be a much larger quantity of this matter than would

¹ It is generally considered that this parish derives its name from a very insignificant earthen fort near the village of Clough; this is very improbable. Dunaghy seems to have been the name of the Doon or rock fort that preceded the Castle of Clough; it is now called Clough, but was formerly known as Clough Dunaghy and Clough Galdanagh; the name of Dunaghy is lost in

the place to which it properly belonged, but is preserved in the name of the parish. Clough properly signifies a useless stone; when these were first gathered up and built into a castle or tower, the name of Clough was given to distinguish it from the wooden or earthen works of the old inhabitants. Many castles throughout Ireland are called by this name.

be produced from the bones of one body. On making further search, at the distance of a few feet, was found another round hole in the subsoil, and in it three or four large pieces of another urn mixed with earth, as if thrown in carelessly; some of these pieces had marks of fire on them, or rather of smoke, such as might have been produced from the burning of green wood. The conclusion came to was, that two funerals were to have been celebrated; and that one of the urns having been broken in the process, and another not being at hand, the 'undertaker' adopted the plan of giving the bones of both a little extra fire, and then pounding them very fine, so as to compress them into one urn. This is more probable than to suppose that the grave where the fragments had been found had been opened at some recent period, and filled up again.

"Although these discoveries do not present much that is new, it is well to put on record every thing connected with urn-burial for the use of some one who may at a future time write a work on this mysterious and interesting subject. In no instance that came under my own observation was any thing found in urns except bones; but I have been informed, and I have no reason to doubt the truth of the information, that other things have been met with. One of the most interesting was a necklace, consisting of a great number of jet beads, and two pear-shaped ornaments. These beads were like button-moulds, evidently made by a machine, and as nicely turned out as they could be done at this day; they are polished on the edges, but not on the flat surface (I enclose a specimen). These urns cannot be described as good pottery, yet those who made them had ideas of a graceful outline; they had also skill in selecting material, and in manipulating it; for, when found, they are as perfect, and the ornamenting as sharp, as when they left the hands of the potter. I think they were not made in this locality; for in a case as formerly stated, one was found with its bottom broken, and the want supplied by a stone, and in the present case one of two having been broken, that which remained had to do duty for both. It is very remarkable that I never knew of any teeth having been found among the remains in an urn; yet, I should think, a good sound tooth would resist the action of fire as well as the skull, fragments of which are always found. Were the teeth extracted before burning, or such of them as remained among the ashes carried away by the friends as memorials?"

The following papers were submitted to the Meeting:—